NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Environmental Assessment

for

Stream Bank Stabilization at Big Bayou Pierre and North Fork of Coles Creek

Natchez Trace Parkway

Claiborne and Jefferson Counties, Mississippi

The National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration are pleased to announce the availability of the *Environmental Assessment for Stream Bank Stabilization at Big Bayou Pierre and North Fork of Coles Creek, Natchez Trace Parkway.* The Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, of the Federal Highway Administration, has prepared this document in cooperation with the Natchez Trace Parkway in order to provide guidance in determining the appropriate actions needed to perform the repairs identified in the FY 2001 Federal Lands Highway Program. The *Environmental Assessment* has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality.

<u>Preferred Alternative:</u> The preferred alternative proposes to stabilize the stream banks through the installation of Longitudinal Peaked Stone Toe Protection (LPSTP). This work will include placing large quantities of riprap along the toe of the stream banks and constructing stabilization dikes approximately every 100 feet. Additional embankment work is required near MP 11 adjacent to the Parkway in order to repair an area affected by a landslide.

<u>Public Review:</u> The National Park Service considers public involvement to be an important component to a successful planning process and we invite you to furnish written comments to the address below:

Superintendent National Park Service 2680 Natchez Trace Parkway Tupelo, MS 31217-4399

The *Environmental Assessment* will be available for public review at the following locations:

Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center located at 2680 Natchez Trace Parkway in Tupelo, MS; Jefferson County Library located at 218 S. Main Street in Fayette, MS; Harriette Person Memorial Library located at 606 Main Street in Port Gibson, MS; Natchez District Office located at Milepost 15.5 along the Natchez Trace Parkway; Natchez National Historic Park located at 640 South Canal Street in Natchez, MS; Vicksburg National Military Park located at 3201Clay Street in Vicksburg, MS; Vicksburg Library located at 700 Veto Street in Vicksburg, MS; and on the world wide web at www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/nepa.htm.

Additional copies of the Environmental Assessment may be obtained by writing to Ms. Brigitte A. Azran, Environmental Compliance Engineer, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, 21400 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, Virginia 20166. If you have any additional questions concerning this announcement, please contact Ms. Brigitte Azran at (703) 404-6283.

Please submit all comments by the closing of the comment period on September 15, 2001.